

of robust growth and bearing yellow flowers. It is quite distinct from other medicagos and may not readily hybridize with them, but looks very promising as a fodder plant. *MEDICAGO CRETACEA* occurs in cliffs in the Caucasus; it is a rather small and stunted perennial species of apparently little value from an economic point of view. *MEDICAGO RUTHENICA* is very variable and the big forms look promising as a fodder plant. It occurs mostly in Central and Western Siberia. *MEDICAGO DAGESTANICA*, a small perennial species from a small district in the Caucasus (Awarsk, province Dagestan), does not promise to be of economic value. *MEDICAGO LITTORALIS*, perennial of small growth, very tomentose, from the Caucasus. *MEDICAGO GLUTINOSA*, a perennial of robust growth, yellow flowers, quite variable, apparently very promising; occurs in the Kuban province, Caucasus. *MEDICAGO RUPESTRIS*, a small, perennial, more or less alpine species, occurring in the Caucasus. Of no economic value. *ARISTIDA PENNATA* has been of very great service as a sand-binder in building the Central Asian railway. He thinks this and the Saxsaul (*Halimodendron*) will be of value in the Southwest. Also describes several species of *AMYGDALUS*, wild and cultivated, from Central Asia; and some semi-desert species of *PINUS*. In a letter of December 24 he sends a small sample of a fiber coming from a climbing leguminous plant growing in the interior of German East Africa and much used by the natives there. Dr. C. Brunner of the Hamburg Botanical Institute says it is one of the strongest fibers of the world. It is unknown botanically.

---

Printed inventories 18 and 19 are now out, including S.P.I. numbers 24430 to 25717. Among the things listed in these inventories are to be found Prof. Hansen's introductions from Central Asia, notably three very promising species of *Medicago* resistant to cold and drought; also a number of durum wheats from Siberia and some remarkable winter muskmelons; Persian clover or Shabdar, now being tried for the irrigated Southwest, and sand-binders used along the Transcaspiian railway. Another notable importation was that of more than 3000 bamboo plants from Japan including two of the best known timber species and one species having edible shoots. Among fruits there are three delicious ones from Java - the Doekoe,